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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/030,525	07/24/2002	Naoki Tamitani	SOEI/0016	5906 8

7590

10/02/2003

Moser Patterson & Sherdian
Suite 1500
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Houston, TX 77056

EXAMINER

POWELL, WILLIAM A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1765

DATE MAILED: 10/02/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/030,525

Applicant(s)

Tamitani et al.

Examiner

Powell, Wm. A.

Group Art Unit

1765

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address--

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Nov. 07, 01, Jul. 24, 2002
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) 0 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) are subject to restriction or election requirement

Application Papers

- ☒ The proposed drawing ~~correction~~, filed on 07/24/02 is ☒ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d).
- ☒ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the:
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a))

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 2
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☒ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

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1. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The expression, "predetermined", renders these claims indefinite since it is not clear what such may include. The use of "predetermined" reads on a nebulous mental step conducted prior to the manipulative steps of the claimed invention, hence rendering the present process and product claims unclear in meaning and scope. If applicant wishes to patent detailed controls over the recited process and product, they should be positively recited. A claim is indefinite where it specifies "predetermined" temperature, etc. --, when such according to applicant's definition merely means determined before hand. Note, *Seagrams and Sons Inc. vs Mazall*, 84 U.S.P.O 180. The claims are therefore, considered to be unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 112, Second paragraph for the reasons set forth above. They could be clarified by merely canceling said expression.

2. Claims 5-9 and 14-17 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claim. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claim the claims have not been further treated on the merits.

3. Wang et al, and Tsai et al. have been cited to further show the state of the art.

4. No claim is allowed.

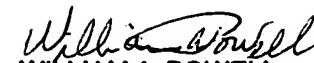
Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to William Powell at telephone number (703) 308-1975.

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William A. Powell/mn
September 29, 2003


WILLIAM A. POWELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER